

## **REMARKS**

The Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration of the pending claims.

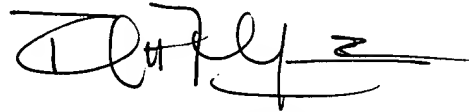
The terms curable, non-curable, thermoset, and thermoplastic have been removed from the claims thus obviating the section 112 rejection. The Applicant has amended these claims to recite that the primary sealant of the invention is one that remains flowable. The sealants described in the specification as the primary sealants that heretically seal the units do not cure or cool to a non-flowable state. These sealants do not, however, provide a significant amount of structural support to the unit. The secondary sealant of the invention is one that cures to a non-flowable state so that it provides rigidity to the unit while also protecting the critical primary sealant. Some secondary sealants are not moisture impervious; they are only used for strength and to keep water from flowing up against the primary sealant. The claims thus now describe the different sealants used at the locations within the unit.

The prior art Town reference cited by the Examiner uses a non-flowable sealant as its primary sealant. The sealant used at location #26 must be a non-flowable sealant because sealant #26 is used to hold film 34 taut as described at col. 10, lines 35-38. A flowable sealant will not hold a film taut in the manner described in the Town reference. Town thus teaches a sealant configuration that is opposite to the claimed configuration and does not anticipate or render the claims obvious. The addition of the Hodek reference does not render the claims obvious.

In view of the foregoing, the Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration of the claims and most earnestly solicits the issuance of a formal notice of allowance. If any issues remain after this amendment, the undersigned attorney would welcome a telephone call.

Respectfully submitted at Canton, Ohio this 9th day of March, 2004.

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**CERTIFICATE OF MAILING**

I hereby certify that this correspondence (Amendment D in application serial no. 09/670,705 filed September 27, 2000) is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to:

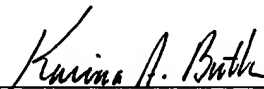
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Commissioner for Patents

P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

on this 9<sup>th</sup> day of MARCH, 2004.



Karina A. Butler